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BY MAIL
IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
JUN 1 3 2008FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION

U. S. DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MO JEFFREY THOMAS, Petitioner,

VS.

Docket No.: 4:08CV0599CEJ

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Respondent.

PETITIONER'S RESPONSE TO THE GOVERNMENT'S MOTION TO DISMISS THE TITLE 28 U.S.C. SECTION 2255 MOTION TO VACATE, SET ASIDE OR CORRECT SENTENCE

COMES NOW Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas with this his Reply to the government's Motion to Dismiss and in support provides as follows:

The government takes the position that Petitioner's Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 filed on April 21, 2008 is untimely, since the Writ of Certiorari was denied on January 8, 2007 and (according to the government) no request for staying the final decision on the Writ of Certiorari was filed before the Court. The government's position is misplaced and their request for an extension of time to address Petitioner's allegations in the Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 should be granted.

As a threshold matter, Petitioner's Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 was considered timely filed on January 3, 2008 when he submitted the original

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pleading along with an incorporated motion requesting an additional 120 day extension of time in order to file additional issues and to supplement the original pleading. (See Attached Appendix A) Ironically, the request was appropriate since it was not until January 7, 2008 that Petitioner received a letter from his prior counsel releasing the case file, thus the additional extension of time of 120 days to supplement the Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 was evident. (See Attached Appendix B) In fact, in preparation of the Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 petition, this Court denied on February 28, 2008 a request for additional documentation from his case. (See Attached Appendix C)

Therefore, as per the documentation presented herein along with the Sworn Affidavit attached hereto, this Court must agree that the Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 was timely filed on January 3, 2008, the date that the same was provided to prison authorities for mailing. (See Appendix D) See, *Houston v. Lack*, 487 U.S. 266 (1988) and *Adams v. United States*, 173 F.3d 1339 (11th Cir. 1999)(Clarifying that under the "mailbox rule" prisoner's Motion to Vacate, Set Aside or Correct Sentence was filed on the date that he signed, executed and delivered his petition to prison authorities for mailing. *Id.* Adams at 1340 Accordingly, at a minimum

Petitioner's pleadings were timely filed on the date that the same were provided to prison authorities for mailing.

Assuming arguendo that the Court disregards the inmate filing deadlines as per the Supreme Court's decision in *Houston v. Lack*, 487 U.S. 266 (1988), then the Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 is timely since the Supreme Court Justice Alito granted the stay of the final judgment of the Writ of Certiorari on the date the Court granted the extension of time to file a timely rehearing on the Writ of Certiorari denial.

If the Court denies the original explanation, then the conviction became final on April 23, 2007 when the Supreme Court denied the Petition for Rehearing on the denial of the Writ of Certiorari, after granting the stay on the final disposition on the denial of the Writ of Certiorari as well.¹

The government wishes this Court to take the position that since the Writ of Certiorari was denied on January 8, 2007, that the timely requirements for filing as per the Anti-Terrorism Ineffective Death Penalty Act of 1996 would cause his pleadings to be untimely filed if not filed prior to January 8, 2008.² Relying on Supreme Court Rule 16.3, and *United*

¹ The government correctly acknowledges that pursuant to the "mailbox rule" Petitioner's pleadings were timely filed on the date that he provided the same to prison authorities for mailing to the clerk's office.

² The government erroneously quotes in their brief that Petitioner's <u>conviction</u> became final on January 8, 2008 however it is assumed that this is a typographical error since they argued that the pleadings filed on April 21, 2008 are in deemed untimely. Once again, this is under the position that the original filing deadline was not met although timely filed via prison authorities.

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States v. Macintosh, 332 F.3d 550, 551 (8th Cir. 2003) the government takes the position that a timely filing petition for rehearing on the denial of the Writ of Certiorari does not toll the one year limitations under Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255. The government has failed to research that a timely request to stay the final order pending the filing of a timely Petition for Rehearing was actually granted by Justice Alito.

On February 7, 2007, Petitioner filed a Motion for an Extension of Time within which to file a Petition for Rehearing on the denial of the Writ of Certiorari. Justice Alito on the same date extended the time up to and including February 16, 2007 to file the Petition for Rehearing. (See Appendix E) On February 15, 2007, Petitioner filed a Renewed Motion for Extension of Time within which to file a petition for rehearing on the denial of the Writ of Certiorari along with a motion to stay the Writ of Certiorari pending disposition of the Supreme Court's decision of *Rita* and *Clairborne* which were pending at the Supreme Court at the time. (See Appendix F)

On February 28, 2008 the clerk's office returned Petitioner's motion for extension of time on the Motion for Rehearing and Motion to Stay for Final Disposition on the Writ of Certiorari under the position that the extension of time was granted through February 16, 2007 and that the most recent application was therefore untimely. The clerk instructed Petitioner to file an

application requesting an extension of the time to file a rehearing after the time had expired. (See Appendix G)

Finally, on March 28, 2007, Justice Alito granted *nunc pro tunc* up to February 27, 2007 Petitioner's further extension of time in which to file the petition for rehearing along with the motion to stay the Writ of Certiorari pending disposition of *Rita* and *Clairborne*. (See Appendix H) Finally, on April 23, 2007 the Supreme Court denied Petitioner's request for rehearing on the denial of the Writ of Certiorari.

Accordingly, since Justice Alito granted the motion for extension of time to file a Petition for Rehearing and in conjunction granted the Motion to Stay the Writ of Certiorari on March 28, 2007 the tolling of time for the filing of the Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 did not begin until April 23, 2007, the day that the Motion for Rehearing was denied. Therefore, as per the government's concession that Petitioner's supplemental pleadings are timely filed on the day that it was placed in the prison mailbox on [April 21, 2008] the pleadings are deemed timely filed before this Court.³

Therefore, Petitioner respectfully prays that due to the sequence of events of his case, that Petitioner's Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 was in essence

³ This is a supporting argument that is presented under the position that the Court refuses to consider the original pleading as timely filed.

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timely filed and the government should be allowed to proceed on a proper response to the same.

Done this ______ day of June 2008

I hereby do certify that pursuant to Penalty of Perjury Title 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that on this <u>La</u> day of June 2008 I signed and mailed this document via the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Legal Mail System.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas

Register No.: 30695-044

Federal Medical Center – Bluegrass

P.O. Box 14500

Lexington, Kentucky 40512

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HERBY DO CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of this Reply to the Government's Motion to Dismiss was mailed to: A. U. S. A. John Bodenhausen, 111 South 10th Street, Room 20.333, St. Louis, MO 63102, by placing the same in the Federal Prison's Legal Mail Box, with sufficient First Class Postage.

Done this _____, day of June 2008

I hereby do certify that pursuant to Penalty of Perjury Title 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that on this _____ day of June 2008 I signed and mailed this document via the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Legal Mail System.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Thomas

Register No.: 30695-044

Federal Medical Center - Bluegrass

P.O. Box 14500

Lexington, Kentucky 40512

MOTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2255 TO VACATE, SET ASIDE, OR CORRECT SENTENCE BY A PERSON IN FEDERAL CUSTODY

Prisoner No.: 30695-044
Movant (include name under which you were convicted)
JEFFREY THOMAS
TON
judgment of conviction you are challenging:
r):
ow): August 12, 2005
<u> </u>
·
8 U.S.C. §1341, Wire Fraud
ing 18 U.S.C. §1957, Bank Franc
Abetting 18 U.S.C. §
(3) Nolo contendere (no contest)
lictment, and a not guilty plea to another count
hat did you plead not guilty to?



6.

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7.	Did you testify at a pretrial hearing, trial, or post-trial hearing? Yes 💆 No 🗆
8.	Did you appeal from the judgment of conviction? Yes ₩ No □
9.	If you did appeal, answer the following:
	(a) Name of court: U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eight Circuit
	(b) Docket or case number (if you know): 05-3264
	(c) Result: Conviction Affirmed
	(d) Date of result (if you know): June 28, 2006
	(e) Citation to the case (if you know):
	(f) Grounds raised: misapplication of money laundering Statue - 18 J.S.C. §1957; violation of Fourth Amendment Due to Warrant
1	ess search and seizure of mail/personal property; insuffi
i	ency of evidence relative to bank fraud conviction.
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_	
	(1) Docket or case number (if you know):
	(3) Date of result (if you know): Rehearing Denied April 23, 2007
	(4) Citation to the case (if you know):
	(5) Grounds raised:
) Dtl	her than the direct appeals listed above, have you previously filed any other motions,
et	itions, or applications concerning this judgment of conviction in any court?
	Yes C No A
fу	our answer to Question 10 was "Yes," give the following information:
	(1) Name of court: N/A
,	(2) Docket or case number (if you know):
	(3) Date of filing (if you know):
	(a) 112Te of filing (it voil know):

11.

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(4) Nature of the proceeding:	 .
(5) Grounds raised:	
	
(6) Did you receive a hearing where evidence was given on your motion, petition, or	`
application? Yes D No D	
(7) Recult:	
(8) Date of result (if you know):	
(b) If you filed any second motion, petition, or application, give the same information:	
(1) Name of court:	
(2) Docket or case number (if you know):	
(3) Date of filing (if you know):	
(4) Nature of the proceeding:	
(5) Grounds raised:	
(6) Did you receive a hearing where evidence was given on your motion, petition, or	
application? Yes 🗆 No 🗆	
(7) Result:	
(8) Date of result (if you know):	
(c) Did you appeal to a federal appellate court having jurisdiction over the action taken on yo	
motion, petition, or application?	
(1) First petition: Yes D No D	
(2) Second petition: Yes D No D	

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	(2) To a series of the series
	(d) If you did not appeal from the action on any motion, petition, or application, explain briefly why you did not:
12.	For this motion, state every ground on which you claim that you are being held in violation of th
	Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States. Attach additional pages if you have more
	than four grounds. State the <u>facts</u> supporting each ground.
GR	OUND ONE: Counsel was constitutionally ineffective during
pl ri (a) S	ea negotiations in violation of petitioner's Sixth Amendme ght to effective assistance of counsel, upporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim.):
	See Memorandum in Support attached hereto and included
he	rein by reference.
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) Di	rect Appeal of Ground One:
	If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue?
(1)	Yes No X
(0)	
(2)	If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why:
	See memo
Pos	t-Conviction Proceedings:
(1)	Did you raise this issue in any post-conviction motion, petition, or application?
	Yes 🖸 No 🗖
(2)	If your answer to Question (c)(1) is "Yes," state:
	e of motion or petition:

	1 age o
Docket or case number (if you know):	
Date of the court's decision:	
Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available):	
(3) Did you receive a hearing on your motion, petition, or application?	
Yes D No D	
(4) Did you appeal from the denial of your motion, petition, or application?	
Yes D No D	
(5) If your answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," did you raise this issue in the a	appeal?
(6) If your answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," state:	
Name and location of the court where the appeal was filed:	
Docket or case number (if you know):	
Date of the court's decision:	
Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available):	
7) If your answer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain why yo	
UND TWO. Petitioner was denied Effective Assist	tanceof Counsel
Direct Appeal when his Appellant Counselfailed	d <u>to raise i</u> ssu
Direct Appeal when his Appellant Counselfailed Appeal tant were clearly more meritorious than upporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that su	n those issues : pportyour claim.):
ee Memorandum In support attacher hereto and i	included
erein by reference	· ·

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(b) Direct Appeal of Ground Two:	•
(1) If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue?	•
Yes 🗅 No 🌣	
(2) If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why:	
see memo	
a) Past Convistion Proceedings	
c) Post-Conviction Proceedings:	2
(1) Did you raise this issue in any post-conviction motion, petition, or application	on:
Yes D No X	•
(2) If your answer to Question (c)(1) is "Yes," state:	
Type of motion or petition:	
No. 1 to 1	
Name and location of the court where the motion or petition was filed:	
Docket or case number (if you know):	· .
Docket or case number (if you know): Date of the court's decision:	
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counsel at sentencing and on appeal when counsel failed to Dect to errors at sentencing and present the same on direct Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your daim.): See Memorandum In support attached hereto and included herein by reference irect Appeal of Ground Three: 1) If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue? Yes \(\) No 1) If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why:	Tarse Mits resire.				
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Type of motion or petition:	Yes 🗆 No 🗖			•	
	2) If your answer to	Question (c)(1) is "Yes," state	:		•
	•			·	
				<u>.</u>	
Docket or case number (if you know):	lanket on occo mumba	e (if mon lepon).			

		P
Result (at	tach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available):	
(3) Did you	receive a hearing on your motion, petition, or application?	
Yes 🗅	No 🖸	·
(4) Did you	a appeal from the denial of your motion, petition, or applica	tion?
Yes 🗅	N₀ □	
(5) If your	answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes," did you raise this issue in	the appeal?
Yes 🗅	N₀ □	
(6) If your	answer to Question (c)(4) is "Yes." state:	
Name and	location of the court where the appeal was filed:	
Docket or c	ase number (if you know):	
Date of the	court's decision:	
Result (atta	ch a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available):	
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(7) If your a	nswer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain w	hy you did not appeal or
(7) If your a	nswer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain we sue:	hy you did not appeal or
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(7) If your a raise this is:	nswer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain we sue: R: See Memorandum In support, attac	hy you did not appeal or
(7) If your a raise this is:	nswer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain we sue:	thy you did not appeal of
(7) If your a raise this is:	nswer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain we sue: R: See Memorandum In support attack herein by reference.	thy you did not appeal or hed hereto and
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	<u> </u>	
b) Dir	ect Appeal of Ground Four:	
(1) I	f you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue?	•
`	Yes 🗅 No 🌠	
(2) I	you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why:	
,	see memo	
Post-	Conviction Proceedings:	
	id you raise this issue in any post-conviction motion, petition, or application?	
	es D No V	
	your answer to Question (c)(1) is "Yes," state:	
	of motion or petition:	···· <u>-</u>
Name	and location of the court where the motion or petition was filed:	
	<u> </u>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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	t or case number (if you know):	
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	(7) If your answer to Question (c)(4) or Question (c)(5) is "No," explain why you did not appeal or
	raise this issue:
13.	Is there any ground in this motion that you have not previously presented in some federal court?
	If so, which ground or grounds have not been presented, and state your reasons for not
	presenting them:
	see memo
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	Oo you have any motion, petition, or appeal now pending (filed and not decided yet) in any court or the judgment you are challenging? Yes D No
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f I p - - - 5. G st (a)	or you have any motion, petition, or appeal now pending (filed and not decided yet) in any court for the judgment you are challenging? Yes D No of "Yes," state the name and location of the court, the docket or case number, the type of roceeding, and the issues raised. ive the name and address, if known, of each attorney who represented you in the following ages of the judgment you are challenging: At preliminary hearing: Teffrey T. Demorath and Michelle Orake we Wetropolitan Square, Suite 2600, St. Louis, NO 63102-2740
f I I P (a (a) (b)	or you have any motion, petition, or appeal now pending (filed and not decided yet) in any court or the judgment you are challenging? Yes O No of "Yes," state the name and location of the court, the docket or case number, the type of roceeding, and the issues raised. ive the name and address, if known, of each attorney who represented you in the following ages of the judgment you are challenging: At preliminary hearing: Jeffrey T. Demorath and Michelle Orake we Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600, St. Louis, NO 63102-2740 At arraignment and plea: Richard K. Dowd, 100 N. Broadway.
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f I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	Or you have any motion, petition, or appeal now pending (filed and not decided yet) in any court or the judgment you are challenging? Yes O No of f"Yes," state the name and location of the court, the docket or case number, the type of roceeding, and the issues raised. In the name and address, if known, of each attorney who represented you in the following ages of the judgment you are challenging: Output The Name and Michelle Drake of Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600, St. Louis, NO 63102-2740 Output At arraignment and pleas: Richard K. Dowd, 100 N. Broadway, wite 2105, St. Louis, MO 63102 At trial: Jeffrey T. Demerath and Michelle Orake,
f I I P	or you have any motion, petition, or appeal now pending (filed and not decided yet) in any court or the judgment you are challenging? Yes D No of f"Yes," state the name and location of the court, the docket or case number, the type of roceeding, and the issues raised. ive the name and address, if known, of each attorney who represented you in the following ages of the judgment you are challenging: At preliminary hearing: Jeffrey T. Demerath and Michelle Drake we Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600, St. Louis, MO 63102-2740 At arraignment and plea: Richard K. Dowd, 100 N. Broadway, wite 2106, St. Louis, MO 63102

	(e) On appeal: Jeffrey T. Demerath, One Metropolitan
	(e) On appeal: <u>Jeffrey T. Demerath</u> , One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600, St. Louis, MO 63102-2740
	(f) In any post-conviction proceeding:
	·
	(g) On appeal from any ruling against you in a post-conviction proceeding:
	<u> </u>
16.	Were you sentenced on more than one count of an indictment, or on more than one indictment, in
	the same court and at the same time? Yes 💆 No 🗅
17.	Do you have any future sentence to serve after you complete the sentence for the judgment that
	you are challenging? Yes D No 🕱
	(a) If so, give name and location of court that imposed the other sentence you will serve in the
	future:
	·
	(b) Give the date the other sentence was imposed:
	(c) Give the length of the other sentence:
	(d) Have you filed, or do you plan to file, any motion, petition, or application that challenges the
	udgment or sentence to be served in the future? Yes D No D
•	-

18. TIMELINESS OF MOTION: If your judgment of conviction became final over one year ago, you	
must explain why the one-year statute of limitations as contained in 28 U.S.C. § 2255 does not	
baryour motion.* This peitition is timely under the Antiterroris	m
and effective Death Penalty Act of 1996. The attached	
Motion for Leave Requesting a 120 day extension of time wiht	in
which to file an Amended \$2255 petition and to file a more	
detailed memorandum of law with relevant points and authorit	ies
In support of petition is also timely in that it is being	
filed along with this \$2255 petition and before any response	
from the government as to the merits of the claim.	
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^{*} The Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 ("AEDPA") as contained in 28 U.S.C. § 2255, paragraph 6, provides in part that:

A one-year period of limitation shall apply to a motion under this section. The limitation period shall run from the latest of —

⁽¹⁾ the date on which the judgment of conviction became final;

⁽²⁾ the date on which the impediment to making a motion created by governmental action in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States is removed, if the movant was prevented from making such a motion by such governmental action;

⁽³⁾ the date on which the right asserted was initially recognized by the Supreme Court, if that right has been newly recognized by the Supreme Court and made retroactively applicable to cases on collateral review; or

⁽⁴⁾ the date on which the facts supporting the claim or claims presented could have been discovered through the exercise of due diligence.

					Page
Therefore, movant as	sks that the Court g	rant the foll	lowing relief: Pe	titioner Red	quest a
	Hearing as		•		
or any other relief to	which movest may	ha antitlad			
or any owner rener to	which movant may	ne ettrimen.			
			Signature of At	taması (if anıı)	
			Signature of At	torney (if any)	
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declare (or certify, ve	erify, or state) under	penalty of	perjury that the	foregoing is true an	id correct
nd that this Motion u	ınder 28 U.S.C. § 22	55 was plac	ed in the prison	nailing system on	
\ .	_	•	•		
103/08 (mont	h, date, year).	-			
				·	
secuted (signed) on $\frac{c}{4}$	January 3, 20	08 (date).			
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			O. Altron	Thomas	,
			Joffrey	Thomas	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

GROUND ONE:

Counsel was constitutionally ineffective during guiltypleq negotiations in violation of Petitioner's Sixth Amendment right to effective assistance of counsel.

SUPPORTING FACTS

On April 7, 2005, the U.S. Attorney's Office invited Petitioner and his trial counsel, Mr. Demerath to their office to discuss a guilty plea. Petitioner and counsel agreed and proceeded to the U.S. Attorney's Office. At this meeting the Assistant United States Attorney prosecuting Petitioner's case offered to allow Petitioner to plead guilty and in exchange the government would agree to give him a 21 month prison sentence and allow Petitioner to serve his sentence at the Marion prison camp. Petitioner liked this offer and shook his head in approval. Petitioner then asked the A.U.S.A. if he and counsel could speak in private to discuss the matter. The A.U.S.A. agreed and provided Petitioner and Mr. Demerath with a private room.

While in this private room, Petitioner asked Mr. Demerath if he could have the plea bargain from the government reduced to writing so that the judge would be aware of the terms of this agreement and, thus, protect himself. In responding to Petitioner's request Mr. Demerath became angry and began using profane language and told Petitioner to "trust their word and accept the

the bargain." After expressing concern again that the Court may not be aware of this oral and off-the-record agreement and that he may receive a sentence greater than 21 months if the Court was not aware of the agreement, Mr. Demerath became more angry at Petitioner and responded by stating:

"F ... it! Your (sic) will be going to jail for a long time."

Mr. Demerath then stormed out of the room without saying another word to Petitioner. The next day Petitioner contacted attorney Richard Dowd at his home. In a phone conversation with Mr. Dowd Petitioner explained the current difficulties that he and Mr. Demerath were having and, Petitioner asked Mr. Dowd if he could assist him in negotiating a plea agreement with the government. Mr. Dowd expressed his concerns, but, informed Petitioner that he could not get involved in his case given that Petitioner was already being represented by counsel.

The next morning the U.S. Attorney's Office learned of Petitioner's and Mr. Dowd's conversation and spoke to Mr. Demerath about it. Upon meeting Petitioner this next morning, Mr. Demerath appoached Petitioner in a hostile manner outside the courtroom and asked Petitioner why he had contacted Mr. Dowd about the plea. In his attempts to explain his reasons for contacting Mr. Dowd Mr. Demerath interupted Petitioner and angerily stated, "The government is no longer interested in speaking with you and

the offer is no longer available."

Petitioner contends that Mr. Demerath's actions during guilty plea negotiations fell below the standard of reasonableness.

Mr. Demerath performed deficiently in:

- (a) abruptly walking out on Petitioner during plea negotiations;
- (b) Failing to adequately assist Petitioner in accepting the government's plea offer;
- (c) Failing to explain to Petitioner the guilty plea process and the type of guilty plea's available, such as, 11(c)(1); and
- (d) Failing to explain to Petitioner the critical role the
 United States Sentencig Guidelines would play on his sentence.

Here, Counsel's actions fell below the standard of reasonableness and, therefore, constitutes deficient performance.

Prejudice:

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Petitioner asserts that had counsel not performed deficiently, he would have accepted the government's plea offer of 21 months.

"I would have accepted the offer from the government for a 21 month sentence. I wanted to plead guilty, however, I just wanted the court to be aware of the agreement. I had taken multiple steps to get this plea bargain being offered by the government, but, Mr. Demerath failed to assist me in my efforts."

GROUND TWO:

Petitioner was denied Effective Assistance of Counsel on Direct Appeal when his Appellant Counsel Failed to Raise the following Issues on Appeal; Issues that were clearly more meritorious than those issues present on Appeal.

- (A) Appellant Counsel should have argued on Appeal that "The District Court violated Petitioner's Sixth Amendment right to retain counsel of his choice when Petitioner made several motions to the Court to be allowed to have a continuance to seek the services of an attorney, Attorney Eric Tolen, who Petitioner and his family had already paid a retainer fee to represent Petitioner for his jury trial and other criminal proceedings. Petitioner also Contacted Attorney Paul D'Agrosso mid-trial about taking over his case,
- (B) Appellant Counsel should have argued on Appeal that Petitioner was denied effective assistance of counsel due to Petitioner's counsel's, Attorney Michelle Drake and Appellant counsel himself, laboring under a "conflict of Interest" during Petitioner's criminal proceedings in the district court.

The record before the District Court clearly shows that Petitioner's counsel, Mrs. Michelle Drake was married to an Assistant United States Attorney in the same U.S. Attorney's that was prosecuting Petitioner.

In addition, the record before the Distrcit Court demonstartes that Petitioner's trial counsel, who was also Appellant, counsel "labored under a conflict of interest." During his proceedings in the District Court both Petitioner and his trial/ Appellant Counsel filed substantive motions to have trial/
Appellant counsel removed or withdrawn from his representation
of Petitioner due to thier inability to communicate. The Court
was made aware by both Petitioner and trial/Appellant counsel
that there was a "complete breakdown in communication" between
the two of them that prevented counsel from adequately, and,
often times from totally, providing Petitioner with effective
representation; and

(C) Appellant Counsel should have argued on Appeal that the District Court Erred in failing to "Appoint Petitioner new Counsel" during the Conflict of Interest hearing as the law requires. In considering Petitioner's and trial/Appellant counsels motions for counsel to be allowed to withdraw from the case the District Court should have, but failed to, provide Petitioner with competent representation for this hearing. Such failure was an abuse of discretion or error.

Based on the record before this Court, it should be clear that Petitioner's Appellant counsel not only was ineffective for failing to raise these clearly meritorious issues to the Court of Appeals, but, that given that the substance of each of the claims left out of Petitioner's Appeal revolved around Appellant counsel's own misconduct or ineffectiveness during the District Court proceedings, Appellant Counsel again "Labored under a Conflict of Interest that Adversely Affected Petitioner's Appellant proceedings." This is to say that Appellant counsel deliberately refused or failed to raise the claims above due to

the substance of each of the claims above having direct relevance to Appellant Counsel's misconduct or ineffectiveness (conflict if interest) du ng his representation of Petitioner in his criminal proceedings.

GROUND THREE:

Petitioner was denied effective assistance of counsel at sentencing and on appeal when counsel failed to object to the following errors at sentencing and present the same on direct appeal.

- (1) Counsel should have objected to and/or raised on appeal the issue that Loss calculation about found by the court was mistaken or in error resulting in Petitioner's sentence being unlawfully increased in violation of his due process rights;
- (2) Counsel should have objected to and/or raised on appeal the issue that the court erred in misapplying the grouping rules to his base offense level. Consequently, Petitioner's sentence was unlawfully increased;
- (3) Counsel should have objected to and/or raised on appeal the issue that the district court erred in its total finding of restitution amounts to be attributed to Petitioner.
- (4) Counsel should have objected to and/or raised on appeal the court's failure to grant Petitioner and counsel additional time to review the Pre-sentence report together, and,

the court violated Rule 32 of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure by failing to allow Petitioner and counsel time to review the presentence report.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays that this Court will properly review his pleading and claims set forth herein and grant him liberal construence for the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Executed on January 3, 2008.

Jeffrey Thomas

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Memorandum In Support of \$2255 petition was placed in the prison mailing system on January 03, 2008.

Jeffrey Thomas #30695-044 Case: 4:08-cv-00599-CEJ Doc. #: 7-2 Filed: 06/13/08 Page: 21 of 24 PageID #: 119

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

JEFFREY THOMAS, Petitioner,	}	
VS.)	Civil Filing 28 U.S.C. 2255
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Respondent.)	20 0.0.0. 227

MOTION FOR LEAVE REQUESTING A 120 DAY EXTENSION OF TIME WITHIN WHICH TO FILE AN AMENDED \$ 2255 PETITION TO SUPPLEMENT ATTACHED \$ 2255 PETITION AND TO FILE A MORE DETAILED MEMORANDUM OF LAW WITH RELEVANT POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF PETITION.

NOW COMES, Petitoner, Jeffrey Thomas, pro-se and does hereby respect-fully request approval from this Honorable Court for a 120 day extension of time within which to file an amended §2255 to supplement attached petition together with a detailed memorandum of law in support.

In support of this motion, Petitioner states the following:

- 1. On or about September 2007, Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas's family made arrangements with out of state legal counsel to research and prepare his \$2255 petition, and on or about late October 2007, Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas learned that no research or work hadbeen performed on his case as November 2007 by the firm.
- 2. In November 2007, Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas's family sought to retain new legal counsel but terminated such efforts, because of racial remarks, slanderous statements, and a verbal assault on petitioner's family member.
- 3. Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas's family hasbeen referred to different and competent legal counsel and is in the process of securing the required funds to retain the firm's services to assist petitioner in preparing an amended § 2255 petition to include controling circuit and Supreme Court Case Law.

- 4. Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas states that he has worked closely with the University of Kentucky's School of Law over the past months relative to his case and due to the complexity of the issues and skill required to properly litigate a \$2255 appeal, Petitioner respectfully requests a 120 day extension of time within which to amend his current \$2255 petition with the assistance of an experienced writ writer and legal counsel.
- 5. Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas has recently discovered material facts that he believes were knowingly suppressed and concealed from him and his Court appointed counsel during the course of pretrial and trial and such facts were material to a proper defense of the case and despite having written to various police agencies in November and December 2007, the relevant facts and files are still being suppressed in violation of Brady v. Maryland as of the date, January 3, 2008.
- 6. About two weeks ago, December 23, 2007, Petitioner did write to court appointed counsel requesting specific documents that constitutes Brady material but due to the holiday and mail delays, Petitioner has not received a reply from former counsel as of today, January 3, 2008.
- 7. Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas also seeks the 120 day extension of time within which to file an amended §2255 petition so that he can secure facts necessary to properly allege several Brady and additional constructive denial of counsel claims resulting from the Brady violations and Petitioner needs the professional services of legal counsel to secure the necessary documents to include the issues in his §2255 petition with sufficient facts to avoid dismissal due to lack of facts.
- 8. Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas is submitting the attached §2255 petition with the more obvious issues but respectfully requests an additional 120 days within which to file a revised petition to more fully raise

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and argue all of his consitutional claims and such extension is necessary to allow his new legal counsel to review his notes, research, and desired issues for full briefing.

9. This request is being made for good cause and not to frustrate the proceedings and no interested party will be prejudiced should the Court grant Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas's request made herein.

WHEREFORE: Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas respectfully prays this Honorable Court grant this motion For Leave Requesting a 120 Day Extension of Time Within Which To File An Amended §2255 Petition And To File A More Detailed Memorandum Of Law With Relevant Points and Authorities In Support.

. Executed this 3 day of January 2008.

Further Affiant Sayeth Not.

Done this 3rd day of January 2008. A.D.

All Rights Reserved,

Joffrey Thomas -# 30695-044 Jeffrey Thomas Affiant

NOTARY STATEMENT

The state of Kentucky) Scilicet Fayette County)

Before me, a Notary Public for the State of Kentucky, Fayette County personally appeared Jeffrey Thomas known to me(or provided to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the man whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and being duly sworn according to law did affirm and subscribe to the foregoing under the penalties of perjury on This 3rd day of January 2008 A.D.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL.

NOTARY SIGNATURE

Notary Public for Kentucky

Fayette County

My Commission Expires: $\omega/27/2010$ (Seal)

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NOTICE OF FILING

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Motion for Leave Reqesting A 120 Day Extension of Time Within Which To File An Amended §2255 Petition To Supplement Attached §2255 Petition and To File a More Detailed Memorandum of Law with relevant Points and Authorities was placed in the prison mailing system on January 3rd 2008.

Signed on January 3rd 2008 A.D.

1/3/08

Jeffrey Thomas

Federal Medical Center P.O. BOX 14500

Lexington Ky, 40512-4501



ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP

Jeffrey T. Demerath jdemerath@armstrongteasdale.com

CALIFORNIA ILLINOIS KANSAS MISSOURI NEVADA SHANGHAI WASHINGTON, DC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

January 7, 2008

Jeffrey Thomas #30695-044 - Blue Grass FMC Lexington Federal Medical Center P. O. Box 14500 Lexington, KY 40512

CONFIDENTIAL/LEGAL COMMUNICATIONS

Re: U.S.A. v. Jeffrey Thomas

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I am in receipt of your request for trial records and files. It will take us some time to copy those materials and I anticipate that it will be at least several weeks. Please have your contact get in touch with me in the next 10 days to 2 weeks and we will get you the materials. They are voluminous and we will have to insist that you pick them up at our front desk and have someone to take them from that point.

Yours very truly, ARMSTRONG PEASDALE/L

Jeffrey T Demerath

JTD/kjd

-B-

one metropolitan square

SUITE 2600

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102-2740

TEL: 314.621.5070

FAX: 314.621,5065

Case: 4:08-cv-00599-CEJ Doc. #: 7-4 Filed: 06/13/08 Page: 1 of 1 PageID #: 124

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)		
Plaintiff,	ý		
vs.)	No. 4:03-CR-470	(CEJ)
JEFFREY THOMAS,)		
Defendant.)		

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the motion of defendant Jeffrey
Thomas for copies of various documents [Doc. #264] is denied.

CAROL E. JACKSON

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Dated this 28th day of February, 2008.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

JEFFREY THOMAS, Petitioner,

VS.

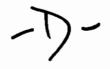
Docket No.: 4:08CV0599CEJ

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Respondent.

SWORN AFFIDAVIT JEFFREY THOMAS

COMES NOW, Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas, *pro-se*, pursuant to Penalty of Perjury under Title 28 U.S.C. § 1746, with this his Sworn Affidavit in Support of his Reply to the Government's Motion for Dismissal and in support provides as follows:

- 1. On January 3, 2008 I submitted via the Federal Prison's Legal Mail System, my Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 petition along with an incorporated motion requesting a 120 day extension of time in order to prepare a proper memorandum of law with supporting documentation.
- 2. I was under the impression all along that my motion was filed since I did not hear to the contrary from the Clerk's Office.



- 3. In fact, since the Court denied my request for additional documents from my case on February 28, 2008, I was under the impression that all my motions were filed and the Court was awaiting for the additional memorandum of law.
- 4. Prior to the 120 day deadline requested in my original pleading, I filed my new petition with my memorandum of law as I requested.
- 5. I used the institutions legal mail system as required for all legal mail pleadings to the Court.

Done this ______, day of June 2008

I hereby do certify that pursuant to Penalty of Perjury Title 28 U.S.C. § 1746 that on this _____ day of June 2008 I signed and mailed this document via the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Legal Mail System.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey Thòmas

Register No.: 30695-044

Federal Medical Center – Bluegrass

P.O. Box 14500

Lexington, Kentucky 40512

No. 06A763

Title:

Jeffrey Thomas, Applicant

United States

Docketed:

Lower Ct:

United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

Case Nos.:

(05-3264)

---Date----Proceedings and Orders-----

Jan 29 2007 Application (06A763) to extend the time to file a petition for rehearing from February 2, 2007 to February 22,

2007, submitted to Justice Alito.

Feb 7 2007 Application (06A763) granted by Justice Alito extending the time to file until February 16, 2007.

Feb 16 2007 Application (06A763) to extend further the time from February 16, 2007 to February 27, 2007, submitted to

Mar 28 2007 Application (06A763) granted by Justice Alito extending the time to file until February 27, 2007.

~~Name~~~~~~~~~

-----Address-----

~~Phone~~~

Attorneys for Petitioner:

Jeffrey Thomas

30695-044

FMC Lexington

P.O. Box 14500

Lexington, KY 40512

Party name: Jeffrey Thomas Attorneys for Respondent:

Paul D. Clement

Solicitor General

(202) 514-2217

United States Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20530-0001

Party name: United States

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Received 2/12/07 Monday 2/12/07 6 pm mail Call

Supreme Court of the United States Office of the Clerk Washington, DC 20543-0001

William K. Suter Clerk of the Court (202) 479-3011

February 7, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey Thomas Prisoner ID 30695-044 FMC Lexington P.O. Box 14500 Lexington, KY 40512

Re: Jeffrey Thomas v. United States

Application No. 06A763

Dear Mr. Thomas:

The application for an extension of time within which to file a petition for rehearing in the above-entitled case has been presented to Justice Alito, who on February 7, 2007 extended the time to and including February 16, 2007.

This letter has been sent to those designated on the attached notification list.

Sincerely,

William K. Suter, Clerk

Erik A. Fossum

Case Analyst

- E

Case: 4:08-cv-00599-CEJ Doc. #: 7-7 Filed: 06/13/08 Page: 1 of 8 PageID #: 129 SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 06-7965

JEFFREY THOMAS
Petitioner,

VS.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Respondent.

MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME WITHIN WHICH TO FILE PETITION FOR REHEARING OF CERTIONARY PETITION

Comes NOW Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas, pro se, and does hereby move this Honorable Court for an extension of time until February 21, 2007 within which to file a petition for Reheuring of Centionari Petition now pending in this Honorable Court.

1. Petitioner Submitted written BP-8 Form to Associate Wurden, Mr. Capusta on ar about January 20, 2007 and February 01, 2007 requesting a Legal Idle from work detail to complete Petition For Reheaving but Such request was denied Stating institution's policy was recently changed to restrict Legal Idles. Such position by the institution and staff is inconsistant with 28 CFR and vost case lawwhen urgent Court filing deadlines exist an Inmate documents the same.

- 2. Petitioner states that brief is now complete and being typed and will be mailed to this Honorable Court on on before February 20, 2007.
 - 3. Petitioner states because of construction and rennovation to Institution's Library and petitioner's work schedule, petitioner has been unable to neet the filing deadline of February 16,2007 and pray this Honorable Court grant a final extension until February 21,2007 as petitioner has diligently researched and prepared a thorough Legal Argument for Rehearing of Certiorari Petition.

4. Now THEREFORE Petitioner prays this Honorable Court grant this motion for a final extension within which to submit a petition for Rehearing.

February 15,2007

Respectfully Submitted,

Joffrey Thomas
Jeffrey Tnomas
30695-044-8G
Federal Medical Center
P.O. Box 14500
Lexington, KY 40512-4501

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jeffrey Thomas, do hereby certify that the original of this document, Motion to Stay Consideration of Petitioner's Writ of Certiorari, was filed with the Court Clerk identified below. Furthermore, a true and correct copy was sent to the other parties identified below by depositing same into the prison legal mail box, postage prepaid, on the 18th day of January 2007.

Joseph Jo

Office of the Clerk Supreme Court of the United States One First Street NE Washington, DC 20543-0001

Solicitor General Mr. Paul D. Clement U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Room 5614 Washington, DC 20530-0001

Honorable Clerk
US. Court of Appeals
for the Eighth Circuit
111 S. Tenth St. Room 24329
St. Louis, MO 63102

Case: 4:08-cv-00599-CEJ RDocw#:-7-7-7-7-Filed:-06/13/08-Page: 4 Rf & Page 19 #: 132

No. 06-7965

JEFFREY THOMAS

Petitioner,

12.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Respondent.

MOTION TO STAY CERTISHARI
PETITION PENDING DISPOSITION
OF RITH AND CLATBORNE CASES
PENDING THIS COURT

- 1. Petitioner hereby request that final disposition of his certionari Petition be stayedpending this Court's disposition of RITA and Clarborne cases now pending on Centionari as the decisions in both will affect petitionaris Centionari petition now pending.
 - 2 Petitioner pray this honorable assurt grant this mution.

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Jeffrey Thomas
30695-044

No. 06-7965

JEFFREYTHOMAS Petitioner,

VS,

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Respondent

> MOTION TO STAY FINAL DISPOSITION OF WRIT OF CERTIORARI PENDING THIS COURTS OF CLAIBORNE V. UNITED STATES U.S., NO. 06-5618 (8TH CIR)

Comes NOW Petitioner Jeffrey Thomas, Pro Se, and and does hereby move this Honorable Court to stay his Writ of Certionari pending this Court disposition of Claiborne v. United States, U.S., No. 06-5618 and RITA v. United States, U.S., No. 06-5754.

- 1. Petitioner states that he raised various sentencing issues on Certionari to this Court and filed numerous motions with the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals relative to serious errors with his sentence but each motion was denied.
- 2. Petitioner contends that the District Courtexceeded it's lawful jurisdictions by imposing a 166 month additional term of imprisonment based on sentence enhance-

- ments that were the functional equivalent of elements of a greater offense than the offense covered by the jury's general guilty verdict.
 - 3. Petitioner filed numerous motions to the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals briefing the issues but to no avail.
 - 4. The 8th Circuit's denials of petitioner's motions denied the petitioner the right to raise such grave substantial right and constitutional violations by the District Court.
 - 5. Petitioner contends the 1s actually innocent of the additional 166 month enhanced sentence because the final indictment was struck of sentencing allegations and such sentence enhancements were not proved to the jury beyond a reasonable doubt.
- 6. Petitioner contends his continued in careeration is illegal and a manifest miscarriage of justice.
- 7. Petitioner respectfully requests that this Honorable Court Stay his Centionari now pending in this Court pending disposition of <u>Claiborne 4</u>. United States, U.S., No. 06-5618 which is also an Eighth Circuit ease. (439 F.3d 479, 8+ncin).
- 8, Petitionen makes this motion for good cause and in good faith as petitionen believes the requests herein are within this courts authority and such request promotes

9. Now THEREFORE petitioner prays this Honorable Court grant this motion to stay petitioner's Cortionari petition now pending in this Court.

February 16, 2007

Respectfully Submitted

Jeffrey The Jeffrey Tromas 30695-044 Federal Medical Center P.O. Box 14500 Lexington, KY 40512-4501

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jeffrey Thomas, certifies under penalty of perjury that a copy of this motion has been sent to the Solicitar General of the United States, Rm. 5614, 950 Pennsy Ivania Ave., N.W., Washington D.C. 20530-0001.

Jeffrey JR

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SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF THE CLERK WASHINGTON, DC 20543-0001

February 28, 2007

Jeffrey Thomas #30695-044 FMC - Bluegrass P.O. Box 14500 Lexington, KY 40512-4501

RE: Extension of Time on Rehearing for 06-7965

No: 06A763

Dear Mr. Thomas:

The application for an extension of time within which to file a petition for rehearing in the above-entitled case was postmarked February 20, 2007 and received February 27, 2007. An original application for extension of time to file a petition for rehearing was granted and time to file was extended through February 16, 2007. Your most recent application was submitted after the February 16, 2007 deadline to file a petition for rehearing. Thus your time to file an application requesting an extension and your time to file a rehearing has expired. The case is considered closed in this Court.

Sincerely,

William K. Suter, Clerk

By:

Erik Fossum (202) 479-3392

Enclosures

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Supreme Court of the United States Office of the Clerk Washington, DC 20543-0001

Clerk of the Court (202) 479-3011

William K. Suter

March 28, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey Thomas Prisoner ID 30695-044 FMC Lexington P.O. Box 14500 Lexington, KY 40512

> Re: Jeffrey Thomas v. United States Application No. 06A763

Dear Mr. Thomas:

The application for a further extension of time in the above-entitled case has been presented to Justice Alito, who on March 28, 2007 extended the time to and including February 27, 2007.

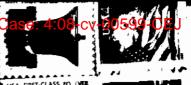
This letter has been sent to those designated on the attached notification list.

Sincerely,

William K. Suter, Clerk

Erik A. Fossum

Case Analyst

















U. S. DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MO ST. LOUIS

St. Louis, MO 63102-1116 3.300 Thomas f. Eaglefon III South tenth Street U.S. Courthouse, Merly's Office

Kington, Kent